



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Draft

Minutes – July 16, 2015

Chair Gary McFarland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present were: Selectmen Bernie Johnson, Gary McFarland, Heather Fowler, Nathan Mason, S. Josephine Cooper; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Comprehensive Planning Committee members Fred Stocking, Brett Johns, Valerie Sprague, Kathryn Gaianguet, Assessor Michael Jordan, Planning Board Chair John Holt, and members of the public Kathleen Rybarz, Bruce Gillett, Carol Korty, and Catherine deTuede.

Agenda Review – No changes were proposed to the printed agenda or addendum.

Minutes, June 25, 2015 – Heather moved to approve the minutes with three spelling corrections. Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0 (Cooper not yet present)**

Expenditure Warrant 2 – Selectmen signed the expenditure warrant in the amount of \$171,003.05. Stu noted that the fire truck debt service payment which will be encumbered from the previous fiscal year and the 2nd half of the rescue boat payment are on the warrant.

Cash & Budget Report- Selectmen reviewed written reports for both fiscal years. Heather asked about the town hall heating system. Stu said the bid prices were much lower than what was budgeted. Heather asked about school expenses. Stu said he expects an accounts payable warrant which will include a sizable payment for special education to the Ellsworth School Department.

Checking Account Reconciliation – Selectmen signed the statement expressing satisfaction with review of the checking account which had been sent via e-mail prior to the meeting.

Encumbrance Order – Jo moved to approve an order encumbering expenses for FY 2015 as follows:

| Account Name | GL # | Amount | Purpose |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Paving – Needles Eye Rd etc | 5-09-10-14.1 | \$153,000.00 | Paving – Needles Eye/School Lot |
| Debt Service – Fire Truck | 5-01-05-901.1 | \$42,210.56 | Fire Truck Payment due 7/15/15 |

Heather 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0. Selectmen signed the Encumbrance Order**

Quarterly Excise Tax Report – Selectmen reviewed the excise tax report, remarking that the final quarter for the fiscal year appeared to be a record collections' quarter. Stu said April was unusually busy, and the fiscal year saw \$34,000 in excess of budget collected.

Tax Liens – Stu reported the liens will be placed in the next week or so. He said there seem to be a larger number than previous years.

Tax Bills – Stu reported tax bills were mailed out on Tuesday, and the mill rate dropped from 10.3 to 10.1 mills.

Audit – Stu reported the auditors will be at the town office on Tuesday to start preliminary work.

Comprehensive Planning – Fred reviewed highlights from a written report to the Selectmen. He said the committee has developed a questionnaire which was a slow process. He said they were working with state data sets and trying to determine what more data is needed. He said the committee is still working on an education portion for the process and several meetings have been canceled for one reason or another. He noted that four of the 8 members have been hit with family health emergencies during the past year. He said before September, the committee will submit the questionnaire by electronic means, and with a postcard notice. He said folks will be able to pick up paper copies, and the deadline will be early November, following which the board will put together a public meeting.

Mr. Stocking said the committee has drafted letters to every board, committee, and other organization it could think of operating in town requesting that they attend a meeting. He said he wished they were further along. He suggested that the committee could use another alternate member and suggested that Michael Jordan be appointed to that position. Mr. Stocking also suggested that the Comprehensive Planning Committee check in again with the Selectmen in January.

Comprehensive Planning Committee member Kathie Gaianguet noted that one of the boards the committee wishes to have a meeting with is the Selectmen. Bernie asked about groups such as the snowmobile club. Mr. Stocking said the committee found 18 groups, including the snowmobile club, they would like to meet with, in addition to the town board. Bernie asked about items on the questionnaire and use of the word “promote”. A brief discussion followed in regard to housing.

Heather asked if the survey was “per-person” or “per-household”. Mr. Stocking said the intent is per person. Ms. Gaianguet said the questions are mostly from a previous comprehensive planning survey. She said once the committee gets the data, they will know what to ask the public about what to include in the plan. A brief discussion followed on how to fill out the survey.

PERC Update – Stu provided a very brief update on the situation with the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company’s offer to extend the contract beyond 2018. He noted there are two competing entities looking to get the town’s trash, and the town is currently a member of the Municipal Review Committee which is planning to build a trash to fuel plant in Hampden.

Vacancies – Stu noted there are numerous applicants for the alternate vacancies on the Planning Board and Board of Appeals. He said the positions have not yet been actively advertised. After a discussion, it was decided to advertise those positions on the town’s website, the Facebook page, and on the town bulletin boards. Selectmen said any

written materials should be submitted by August 6, 2015 and any applicants should be encouraged, though not required, to attend the August 13, 2015 meeting. There was a request to send the appointment policy approved a few years ago to the Board for review. Stu said he would e-mail the policy.

The Selectmen made the following appointments:

Jason Trenholm, full member of Recreation Committee replacing Timothy Jordan on a motion by Bernie, a 2nd by Nate and a **5-0 vote in favor.**

Cathleen Goebel, Parks Commissioner (3-year term) on a motion by Jo, a 2nd by Heather and a **5-0 vote in favor.**

Larissa Thomas, full member of Conservation Commission (3-year term) on a motion by Jo, a 2nd by Gary, and a **5-0 vote in favor.**

Code Enforcement Officer – Selectmen said they would like to interview applicants before the next meeting and set Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 6:00 PM for a special meeting to do so.

Maine Municipal Association Ballot – Jo moved to authorize Stu to submit a ballot on behalf of the Board of Selectmen (there are no contested races). Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Local Road Assistance Acceptance – Jo moved to accept the Maine Department of Transportation Local Road Assistance funds. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed the MDOT form.**

Cell Phone Lease Buyout- Stu reported American Tower, which manages the Verizon Wireless cell tower site, has offered a buyout to the town, and it might be in the best interest of the town to do that. Jo said she would like more information. Nate said he would like to pursue that information in depth. Stu said he would attempt to do a present value analysis of the offer.

Road Work – Stu reported paving started on Needles Eye Road today, and the plan is to pave Buttermilk Road tomorrow and the school project on either Friday or Saturday. He also reported the “Cheese House” intersection of Routes 3 and 204 construction is continuing with road work winding down. The traffic light at the intersection is still planned for September.

Electronic Waste Pickup – Stu reported the E-waste event held July 11th was a huge success, with four trailers full of waste collected. He said the folks from Electronics End were very impressed by the amount of material collected and praised the public notification effort. He noted that he also picked up three televisions that were illegally disposed of in the past year from the roadside and brought them to the pickup.

Request of Planning Board to utilize Town Attorney – Selectmen reviewed a memorandum from Planning Board Chair John Holt. Mr. Holt said the issue involves when a permit exists and a new permit is issued which affects the previous permit. He said there was not a consensus on the Planning Board on which is in effect. Nathan asked what particular issue triggered this. Rev. Holt answered that a commercial building project has encroached on an existing gravel permit and there is some confusion. Stu suggested that the question start with Maine Municipal Association. Rev. Holt asked that if the MMA answer is not specific enough, could the Planning Board use the town attorney. Nathan moved to allow the Planning Board to consult with Maine Municipal Association on the question, and if the answer is not definitive, to authorize the Planning Board to contact the town attorney. Heather 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Other Matters – Kathie Gaiainguest requested that the ad for board openings be extended to the town e-mail list as well.

Gravel Ordinance Workshop – Selectmen reviewed Draft 9 of the proposed gravel ordinance with Planning Board chair Holt. They will further review that draft along with a second, separate amendment regarding setbacks. The board asked for a calendar or timeline in regard to putting the issues to a vote, possibly in the November election. The issue will appear again on the August agenda.

Next Meeting Dates – There will be a special meeting on July 30, 2015 at 6PM. The next regular meetings are scheduled for August 13, 2015, September 10 and 24, 2015, and October 8 and 22, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectmen